

REMARKS

By this amendment, Applicants have canceled claims 18 and 19 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof. As a result of this amendment, claims 1-17 and 20 are pending.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 18 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over so-called Applicants' admitted prior art ("AAPA") fig. 1 in view of AAPA fig. 2; and allowed claims 1-17 and 20. Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 1-17 and 20.

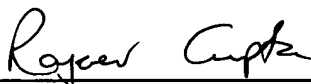
Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejection of claims 18 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over AAPA fig. 1 in view of AAPA fig. 2. In order to expedite prosecution of the present application, however, Applicants have canceled claims 18 and 19, thereby rendering the Examiner's rejection moot, and placing this case in condition for allowance. A timely issuance of a Notice of Allowance is earnestly requested.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: September 22, 2004

By: 
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